

## EDITORIALS

*Give the School Boy All That's Coming to Him*

Carnivals are good things.

Carnivals are all right.

Therefore, THE SUN is for carnivals.

We, of THE SUN, may be twenty minutes late when other things are up for consideration; we may not enthuse over intervention in Cuba; we may pass up the noble and muscular game of bridge; we may not respond to the last call for the dining car; golf, motoring on land and sea, checkers, croquet, and even dirigible ballooning may fail to reach us where we live.

But, when it comes to CARNIVALS:

We are all to the confetti.

Say carnival to us—

And we are no longer responsible. Fast, furious, frantic, festive frenzy fastens itself upon us and makes us thirst for a goblet of wild ass's milk and pant for a dash into the midst of things.

Sometimes we think of Venetian carnivals; again of Roman carnivals; at another time of carnivals of the Nile; in fact, so free and untrammelled has our thinking machinery been when it came to carnivals that we have found no trouble in thinking about any old carnival.

But NOW it's different.

A change has come over the scheme of our carnival thinking.

In spite of all temptations to think about other carnivals—

Today our thinker is occupied solely with thoughts about the carnival about to be pulled off in Jacksonville by little Willie Ringworm and big Immutible George, aided and abetted by one Hollomon.

Our thoughts are thus driven because the two daily handbills of the Jacksonville carnival, edited by Carter and Wilson, have reached us, with their glaring and gigantic goats over the glittering, gorgeous galaxy of rich, rare and resplendent razzle-dazzles, warranted to thrill the tired tissues of the trusting traveler thereto, while divorcing dumfounded devotees from sordid, sinful, soulless and superfluous scads.

Little Willie Ringworm has said: "The carnival spirit should be in the air."

Well, just for this once we will oblige him.

We WILL let the carnival spirit BE in the air.

We don't care to make a practice of this, and up to this time have resisted all such appeals—

But to oblige Willie we, THE SUN, now issue our commands to the elusive elves that guard the enveloping ether and bid them—

Let in the carnival spirit.

To my brother editors who have shown such commendable enterprise in putting on this scheme to amuse the people I offer my best wishes for their success.

It was not beneath the dignity of a Roman emperor to engage in the show business, and I think that editors can lend themselves to it with perfect propriety.

While the Jacksonville carnival is a private enterprise owned by Messrs. Carter, Hollomon and Wilson, and exploited by them for the purpose of making money, the public will be benefited by the amusement derived, and to that extent will be indebted to the three gentlemen just named.

Trade is stimulated when crowds gather, and the merchants of Jacksonville, a few of them at least, will have reason to profitably remember the Jacksonville carnival.

While these are the sidelights to the carnival owned and operated by the trio of typos, the center calcium is the money that there is in it for those who are in it.

IT IS A BUSINESS PROPOSITION. COMMENDABLE, IT IS TRUE, BUT STILL A BUSINESS PROPOSITION.

I hope that it will be a pleasure-giving proposition. It would pain me deeply if the public who will take the trouble and incur the expense of going to see it are treated to a high-class fake, the same as two years ago.

I hope that it will be a magnificent success financially. Men deserve pay for their efforts even if they ARE showmen.

But above all do I hope that the barefooted schoolboy will not be deprived of the benefits arising from an increase of money in the public treasury, due to the pulling off of the carnival.

Shows under tents are taxed under the general revenue law \$50 for the State and \$25 for the county for the privilege of plying their trade.

As the Jacksonville carnival is a private enterprise engaged in for profit, and as some score or more of SHOWS UNDER TENTS will be included in its general scheme, the prospect is bright for a sizeable addition to the public purse.

I know that County Tax Collector Geiger will do his full duty in the matter of collecting all that is collectable under the law.

I know that County Solicitor Bryan will not permit a single showman to commit the serious crime of doing business without a license and go unwhipped of justice.

Knowing these things, and knowing that license money goes into the general revenue fund, and that schools get a large part of their money from the State general revenue fund—

My hope for the barefooted schoolboy is strong.

Surely Editors Carter and Wilson, and even quasi Editor Hollomon, will not have to be reminded of their duty to barefooted schoolboys.

They will hunt the tax collector up and pay the full amount due by them in their role of showmen, which fits them so well.

Hurrah for the carnival!

Long live the carnival spirit!

Bully for the showmen!

But—

DON'T FORGET THE BAREFOOTED SCHOOLBOY!

*Jackdaws Strut in Peacocks' Feathers*

Once before have I called attention to the fact that Editor Stovall of the Tampa Tribune has a penchant for using borrowed editorials in the columns of his paper.

This would be a praiseworthy practice in that it would save his readers from the boredom of reading Stovall's compositions were it not for the further fact he fails to credit them, thus leaving the public with the belief that the editor of the morning paper of Cigartown is responsible for having dreamed the idea and then fashioned the same into words for the Tribune's columns.

I would refrain touching on this subject again were it not for the third fact that I notice two of the brethren of the State press—and there may have been others—have fallen into the trap and copied Wallace F. Stovall's latest bit of editorial thievery and given him credit for the same.

While these editors have been fooled by the wily Wallace and have used his stolen editorial, they have given him a gentle suggestion of the ethics observed by newspapers by giving HIM credit for what THEY HONESTLY AND SINCERELY believed to belong to him.

The jewels and gems of editorial thought which Stovall so frequently steals seem to be taken largely from the jewel casket of the Newspaper Enterprise Association of Cleveland, O.

The latest is entitled "Building a Competency."

When I read this in the Tribune it appealed to me as something unlike Stovall.

Inquiry gave me the authentic information that its publication in the Morning Tribune of Tampa was a clean steal, as is evidenced by the following correspondence:

"Tallahassee, Fla., October 22, 1906.

"Scripps-McRae Syndicate, Indianapolis, Ind.

"Gentlemen—I ask your pardon for troubling you so much, but this Tampa Tribune man is such a busy 'kleptomaniac,' and is so cheery as a result of his successful thefts of other men's thoughts, that I like to call him down every once in a while. Please tell me if the attached is not one of your editorials, and if so, when it appeared in your string.

"Thanking you in advance for your attention to this request, I am

"Yours very truly,

"CLAUDE L'ENGLE."

Clipping of the editorial in question as it appeared as original in the Tampa Tribune was attached to this letter.

Here's the answer:

"Cleveland, O., October 26, 1906.

"Mr. Claude L'Engle, The Sun, Tallahassee, Fla.

"Dear Sir—Your letter to the Scripps-McRae Syndicate has reached me. You are right in thinking the editorial was a clean steal. It was sent out to clients in the N. E. A. service, and we have no client in Tampa, Fla. The editorial was written by our Mr. Charles Grant Miller. Sincerely,

"A. M. HOPKINS, Editor."

While Stovall may be "building a competency," he is at the same time building a reputation as an editorial thief which is worth going miles to see.

He may think he is a master of the noble art of passing off other men's work as his own, but this sort of thing is bound to be detected.

In the use of the keen pair of scissors and the handy paste-pot, Editor Stovall should not neglect the use of his pencil in adding the names of the papers or publications from which he has been in the habit of stealing.

*Give the People a Chance.*

The prominence which the opposition to it has brought to the drainage amendment has resulted in calling attention to the advisability and desirability of allowing the people the opportunity to express their will BY DIRECT VOTE ON ALL LAWS that are passed affecting them.

This has been called the referendum and on account of its advocacy under this name by Socialists and other malcontents the term "referendum" has been brought into some disrepute.

It has become a term objectionable to Democrats, but the IDEA IS GOOD AND THE PRINCIPLE IS SOUND, and it would not be wise to condemn the idea or reject the principle because of dissatisfaction over the name.

"Henceforth I never will be Romeo," said Romeo, when he feared that the family feud between the Montagues and the Capulets would hamper him in his suit for the hand of the fair Juliet.

Let us reject this hated name of referendum if we will, but LET US ADOPT THE PRINCIPLE.

The people elect men to represent them in the legislature and these men pass laws. At best the laws are but the ideas of the representatives of the people, and at worst they are the result of improper influences brought to bear on legislatures.

These laws, passed by these representatives, whether good or bad representatives, affect the whole people, and it is but right that the people should not be pledged to them until they have had an opportunity to express their approval of them.

Government by and with the consent of the governed is the principle which underlies this democracy.

This principle cannot be exploited in its full significance unless the people have an opportunity by direct vote to accept or reject laws passed by their representatives in legislative bodies.

I offer this idea to all the men who will sit as members of the next Florida Legislature.

Fortunate will be the man who puts his name to the law that will carry it out.